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MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST RECORD.

J. E. GAMBRELL,
A. T. MARTIN,
Treasurer,
Editor,
THURSDAY, NOV. 15, 1857.

Our Work.

The greatest of Christian efforts to preserve the gospel in its purity and to propagate it speedily throughout the world, originates now to be valuing past and in proportion to their powers to subserve these purposes. We risk nothing in saying that all the agencies employed for the defense and spread of the gospel have been more potent than Christian schools. These are very important and have a most honorable history. We need go far back in history to find illustrations of the wonderful power of a college to spread abroad the truth. Take what is now Marion University, a real Baptist institution, first built by Baptists in every part, and its influence for good is wonderful to contemplate. It is interwoven through this nation and has literally, through its missionaries, shed the light of the gospel upon almost every quarter of the globe. If we mistake not we have not the data before us of eighty foreign missions having gone out from this blessed institution to tell of Jesus in the dark places of the earth. And what shall we say of Brown University? What has been done for the truth as Baptists hold it. They look at Richmond College, the very center of power for Virginia Baptists, who by it, as we mean, have in a large measure filled their pulpits with a cultivated ministry and their pews with a cultivated laity. What has Methodism done for Georgia? Words cannot tell. Coming nearer home, most of us can remember when Union University and Marquette Union, was the heart of the denomination in Tennessee, and when it was sending forth scores of consecrated, cultivated and sound young ministers to be leaders in the army of God. And whenever they lay aside their bibles and leaders, and for the most part, safe leaders. The value of old Union University and not be estimated. No doubt the denomination will feel its power diminished if it does not come. Its failure was an insuperable calamity to the Baptist cause in Tennessee. It is less so, however, on account of the existence of the Southwestern Baptist University and Hixson Creek Colleges, two good institutions, each doing a noble work.

Mississippi College and Cold Water Association.

In another column will be seen a communication from our valued contributor, Bro. J. W. Lipsay, on this subject. It seems to demand some explanation, and likely we are the proper one to make it.

Before coming squarely to the question, we think it proper to state that, if any wrong has been done in the premises, we take the blame; for we have been right speak and write overviews on the general subject on several occasions. Possibly we may have been wrong, very wrong, and we may be wrong yet. It is nothing uncommon for the Editor of this paper to get wrong, and knowing this, he feels glad there are so many able brethren in our bounds to set him right. We hope they will feel at liberty to do so at all times.

But to come to the matter in hand, it is well known that Mississippi Baptists have never co-operated as they should do in the support of the cause in our State. Bro. Lipsay, we suppose, will concede this. It is a fact not to be questioned also, that very recently, more than half of the Mississippi boys sent to College, have been sent abroad for their education. This has greatly injured our home institutions, and worked evil in various ways.

Some of us thought the time had come to discuss this question publicly. We did it, and so far as the Editor of the Record is concerned, he following the bent of his disposition, spoke plainly, albeit in perfect good humor.

Then, further, it is in testimony, as the lawyers would say, that some brethren in Tennessee, taking counsel of themselves, established a school at Jackson, Tenn., known as the Southwestern Baptist University. The design of the move was to "take Mississippi in" and make it tributary to that institution. We say soberly that the intention was to draw Mississippi Baptists to the support of that school. The work began by appointing Trustees in this State, and it has been continued in different ways, till this good day, with a steady design of making Mississippi tributary to that institution. We are willing to let the proof of this. We do not say that any one has a bad motive. We greatly respect the brethren who have led in this move, and admit that they may think they are doing for the best. But we do not agree with them. We do not love to agitate this part of the subject, but to us it seems necessary, in order, both to a proper explanation and to a fair understanding of the general question.

We readily concede that State lines do not divide the kingdom of Christ, but they are not unimportant for all that. Associational lines do not divide the kingdom of Christ, but what would our respected brother think, if the Oxford Association should send an agent into his Association territory to get support for a missionary in the Oxford Association when the united strength of his people was needed at home to carry on the home work? Would he not think the Association lines of some importance? We know so. The truth is, these lines are of great practical importance.

"I've tried another's letters, too. With shame, perchance, as fair to view. And I would fain have lived as well, But I could not help it, for I had to own I could not bear to own one."

So strong is the spell which comes over us while we are receiving our education, that it is to many "an unremovable spell." Indeed, it is forcibly reminded of the pathetic words of Byron concerning another lover:

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CLINTON, MISS.
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|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1 1/2 | \$1.75 | 2 1/2 | \$2.25 | 3 1/2 | \$3.00 |
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| 6 1/2 | 4.50 | 8 1/2 | 7.00 | 11 1/2 | 9.00 |
| 7 1/2 | 5.00 | 9 1/2 | 7.50 | 12 1/2 | 10.00 |
| 8 1/2 | 5.50 | 10 1/2 | 8.00 | 13 1/2 | 11.00 |
| 9 1/2 | 6.00 | 11 1/2 | 8.50 | 14 1/2 | 12.00 |
| 10 1/2 | 6.50 | 12 1/2 | 9.00 | 15 1/2 | 13.00 |
| 11 1/2 | 7.00 | 13 1/2 | 9.50 | 16 1/2 | 14.00 |
| 12 1/2 | 7.50 | 14 1/2 | 10.00 | 17 1/2 | 15.00 |
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| 15 1/2 | 9.00 | 17 1/2 | 11.50 | 20 1/2 | 18.00 |
| 16 1/2 | 9.50 | 18 1/2 | 12.00 | 21 1/2 | 19.00 |
| 17 1/2 | 10.00 | 19 1/2 | 12.50 | 22 1/2 | 20.00 |

Association? I have heard, as I think, some as good brethren as we have in these parts disapprove of them, and we all or nearly all, so far as I am aware, desire to know why these hints are being made, and at last have found their way into public print? If the College or any other institution of denominational enterprise has ever asked for aid and has not received a liberal response, we would like to know it. We have every year recommended in our sessions the Mississippi College and that alone. We hope that Prof. Martin will give the amount paid and surrendered to the Mississippi College from this Association. There never has been any proposition before the body to recommend any other institution, in Tennessee or elsewhere. The vote has ever been unanimous. The brethren from over the border have never made the least proposition for co-operation.

If I am not mistaken, our Association stands in contributions since the war toward the head of the list of Mississippi Associations. Let brethren Massey and Walke speak as to whether or not we have contributed to the State Mission, though we are carrying on our own Associational Mission. At our last meeting Bro. Walke asked for \$100 and got, I believe, \$108.

Nowas, to the Young ministers who went from this Association to Jackson. The Association had nothing to do with the matter. They went of their own free will and in cord. They had no offers of assistance from any other source until they had spent ten months in school. If the Association is responsible for this, the State must be far off hill when he goes to Knoxville. As to the very unlikely remarks, "Let those support them who sent them there," we suppose those who will do so will feel that the world is in the Master's hand. When those young brethren shall have returned to the Association they will have none of the spirit of those who make such remarks as these who put it as a chip for publication. It was intended to impress the collection for aid young men will easily succeed. The less we turn out young men to Clinton will be by moral and kindness, and not by State lines or the lash.

In conclusion, if there is any Association that can show a clearer and better record than the Cold Water, let it come to the front. — J. W. LINSEY, November 8, 1877.

A Promotion.

Baptist Record. — I recommend the formation of a Baptist Benevolent Association, the object of which shall be to give relief to the families of distressed and disabled ministers and members, and especially to insure the sum of one thousand dollars more or less to the families of Presidents of this Association in case of their decease.

I would suggest something like the following plan: —

1. None but church members admitted, and these pledged to total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

2. An initiative fee of \$5.00 to be applied to necessary expenses, an amount of no less than \$125 nor more than \$50.00 to be applied to relief of distressed and disabled ministers and members, and especially to insure the sum of one thousand dollars more or less to the families of Presidents of this Association in case of their decease.

Some of us are too poor to insure our lives in the regular insurance societies, to say nothing of conscientious scruples, etc., have no objection to leave our families; and our experience teaches us not to trust the Baptist denomination as it is to help when we are disabled, or our families when we die.

If the above plan is approved I trust that the agents of the London Times says there is a strong undercurrent of Democratic sentiment in Russia, which controls the Emperor. You must stop aiming at large crops and try eggs, beans, butter and milk." — Seth Sherman, at the Richmond Fair. This is the best of advice for Mississippi farmers.

Hon. O. P. Morton, Senator from Indiana, is dead. But few Southern men will grieve over his departure. He will be succeeded in the Senate by a Democrat.

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President Hayes thinks \$50,000, 000, or more debt is not much for Virginia. In respect to debt, Mississippi is probably in the best condition of any State in the Union.

We hear of Renters Clubs, and Cotton Clubs in our State. The object of one is to control rents, and of the other, to control the price of cotton. These things control themselves.

A State paper says, Senator Lamar need not make a funeral speech over Morton, and say Mississippi mourns. Mississippi is not sorry a bit. But there were great differences between Sumner and Morton. Now, Morton is dead, and Blaine is sick, and at home in Maine. The Watchman mourns and says "the absence of these two leading minds from the counsels of the nation must be looked upon as a national calamity." We regard it in the light of a blessing.

G. W. HARTSFIELD, Mansfield, La., Nov. 3, 1877.

We allow Bro. Hartfield to correct our mistakes. We take the blame for the copy was good. What shall we do, Bro. Hartfield? Put them in our shoes to do penance? We wait your orders after making apology.—Ed.

"Called on the Wrong Man to Pray."

"Preached to a good congregation, but called on the wrong man to pray at the close"—Gambrell in Richmond, Oct. 25th, 1877.

It is a habit, to my mind, much to be condemned in ministers, that they almost invariably call on the wrong man to pray after sermon?"

The right person for such service need never be unknown to the preacher, and if he makes the mistake and brings mortification on himself, his congregation and the poor "swung him" he alone is to blame.

And now I am going to give an imitable rule, by which to know the right man to pray before and after sermon; and in my opinion, if this rule be strictly adhered to, it will save much mortification of feeling, and many really good sermons will not be driven from the minds of the audience by the mistake of the preacher in calling on the wrong man to pray."

Let the preacher who delivers the sermon pray before and after the sermon, and if he is the right man to preach, he is the right man to pray. It is as much his duty to pray after the sermon as it is his duty to select the hymns. He controls the exercises of the hour, and knows or ought to know his subject best; and all the exercises of the hour should be centered on one idea, and that idea the subject of the discourse. The prayer before sermon should run directly on the discourse to follow, and the prayer after sermon, if one is offered at all, should be a very short and pointed appeal for a successful application of the words spoken; and no one is expected to make how to make this appeal than the preacher who has spoken.

How often have we all been under the influence of a most excellent sermon, and had our hearts deeply impressed by the earnestness and eloquence of the preacher, and then have all these holy emotions dissipated in a moment by the preacher's calling on "the wrong man to pray."

Practitioners of the ministry, this caution of calling on unseasonably on lay brethren to pray after sermon, is wrong, and when it is done, "the wrong man" is called on, and in most cases out of ten, harm is done, and to all due reference to the opinions of the preachers. I advise my lay brethren to decline whenever called on for this service.

Now—We must stock one man for another. We cannot go all the way with our correspondent, but there is much truth in what he says. The closing prayer ought always to be in harmony with the sermon, and should be mounted up and carry us nearer to God. Brethren in the ministry, what do you think of brother Bro. Hayes' views? — Ed.

SECULAR DEPARTMENT.

Editorial Notes.

The Russians continue to gain victories. The Independents carried Marion Verrees, one of the ablest Democrats in the West, succeeds Morton in the Senate.

Gen. McClellan was elected Governor of New Jersey, on the 6th inst. His majority was 10,000.

The condition of political affairs in France is greatly improved. The crisis is probably passed.

The bill to remonetize silver and make it a legal tender, passed the House by a large majority.

Richmond gave President Hayes and party a grand reception, and Hayes was pleased of course.

Prof. James Orton, of Vassar College, died Sept. 30th, in South America. He was a great naturalist.

Hayes and his cabinet officers fled the Richmond folks on sugar last week, and they took it like flies.

In Hinds county, the hindmost regular candidate was more than 500 votes ahead of the foremost independent.

A correspondent of the London Times says there is a strong undercurrent of Democratic sentiment in Russia, which controls the Emperor. You must stop aiming at large crops and try eggs, beans, butter and milk." — Seth Sherman, at the Richmond Fair. This is the best of advice for Mississippi farmers.

President Hayes thinks \$50,000, 000, or more debt is not much for Virginia. In respect to debt, Mississippi is probably in the best condition of any State in the Union.

We hear of Renters Clubs, and Cotton Clubs in our State. The object of one is to control rents, and of the other, to control the price of cotton. These things control themselves.

A State paper says, Senator Lamar need not make a funeral speech over Morton, and say Mississippi mourns. Mississippi is not sorry a bit. But there were great differences between Sumner and Morton. Now, Morton is dead, and Blaine is sick, and at home in Maine. The Watchman mourns and says "the absence of these two leading minds from the counsels of the nation must be looked upon as a national calamity." We regard it in the light of a blessing.

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